

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

6/5/2009

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IMPORTANT LIVE HOMEWORK HELP NEWS

According to BCR, starting in July 2009 users of Live Homework Help (<http://sled.alaska.edu/homework.html>) will need the free Microsoft Silverlight plug-in. Silverlight is an alternative to Adobe Flash. For the free download and other details about this transition, please visit <http://www.bcr.org/publications/bcreview/2009/05/tutorcom-to-use-microsoft-silverlight.html>.

GOODBYE MARCIA, CONGRATULATIONS ZANE!

Anchorage Public Library sadly says farewell to Marcia Colson upon her retirement on May 29 after 14 years here. Her calm demeanor and enthusiasm for collection development will be missed. In a related note, Anchorage Public Library is pleased to announce the promotion of Zane Treesh to Science and Technology Librarian. Zane has been with APL for 10 years, spending time in the branches and at Loussac.

ANCHORAGE LIBRARY USAGE UP, GETS STIMULUS

According to the April 2009 issue of Alaska Business Monthly, the Anchorage Public Library will be receiving over \$20 million dollars worth of federal stimulus money for new branches and for renovation of the Loussac Library. Like libraries around the country, the Anchorage Public Library system has seen strong growth in usage. Attendance at adult programs is up by 50% and attendance at children's programs is up by 20%. Other things going up include the number of library card holders, visits and the number of reference questions.

Reference: Bohi, H. (2009, April). Sitting Pretty Stimulus money would be spent wisely. *Alaska Business Monthly*, 25(4), 114-117.

MUSEUMS: SEND US NEW & RECENT EXHIBITS

If your museum has a new exhibit or recent exhibit you would like highlighted, please let us know about it and we'll highlight here in the Friday Bulletin. If you have a web page for it, be sure to send us the link when you tell us about the exhibit. Your exhibit news will be distributed to archives, libraries and education officials in addition to fellow museums.

RECENT EXHIBITS: ALASKA STATE MUSEUM (JUNEAU)

The Alaska State Museum in Juneau is currently featuring two temporary exhibits:

Da-Ka-Xeen Mehner: Solo Artist Exhibit (May 1 - October 18, 2009) - Solo exhibition of Fairbanks artist's prints, photos and multi-media works.

The Way we Genuinely Live: Yup'ik Science & Survival Exhibit (May 16 - October 19, 2009) - Traveling exhibit from the Anchorage Museum with hands-on activities that focus on Yup'ik life, technology and beliefs.

BASKETBALL EXHIBIT AT JUNEAU-DOUGLAS MUSEUM

The Juneau-Douglas City Museum is currently featuring *HOOP TIME: Gastineau Channel Basketball Through the Years* (March 20, 2009 – November 21, 2009).

According to the museum's web page at

<http://www.juneau.org/parkrec/museum/new.php>, this exhibit documents a 50 year rivalry between Juneau and Douglas' basketball teams from 1903-1953. This exhibit also includes Carlos Boozer's shoes.

NEH PRESERVATION EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANTS

This National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) program seeks to help the staff of cultural institutions (large and small) obtain the knowledge and skills needed to serve as effective stewards of humanities collections. Any U.S. nonprofit organization is eligible, as are state and local governmental agencies and tribal governments.

Awards normally are for two years. Grants to regional preservation field service organizations typically range from \$50,000 to a maximum of \$250,000 per year. For all other applicants, the maximum award is \$125,000 per year. Although cost sharing is not required, NEH, is rarely able to support the full costs of projects approved for funding. In most cases, NEH grants cover no more than 80 percent of project costs.

Applications must be received on Grants.gov **by July 1, 2009**. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number for this grant is 45.149. (Washington State Library Update June 4, 2009).

GRANTS WRITING FOR DIGITAL INITIATIVES (JUNE 12, 2009)

Aja Razumny of the State Library let us know about the following free grants writing class:

June 12 (8-9 am or 12-1 pm)[Alaska Time] Grants writing for digital initiatives (BCR)
Many libraries and museums are looking for ways to enhance support of their digital program. With federal stimulus funds finding their way into state and federal programs, may offer new opportunities for funding digital initiatives. This Free Friday Forum "Grant writing for digital initiatives," provides an overview on federal grant programs, helpful hints for developing grants and registering for Grants.gov. For more information and to register for this program, visit:

<http://www.bcr.org/training/schedule/programdetail.php?programid=399>

Starting in July, Aja will be sending her monthly list of free library CE opportunities to the AkLA-L e-mail list. Friday Bulletin will continue to post continuing education opportunities we think might be of interest to archives and/or museums in addition to libraries.

OREGON LIBRARIES SWAMPED BY JOB SEEKERS

An article in the May 21, 2009 issue of the Oregonian documents the high number of job seekers coming to use library public internet computers. The story is titled *Job seekers without Internet access stretch libraries' computers* and can be found at http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2009/05/job_seekers_without_internet_a.html. Has your library been affected by increased numbers of job seekers? Is there something you're doing you think others could learn from? Let us know. (Hat tip to LISNews)

WASHINGTON PERSPECTIVE ON ALASKA HISTORY

The Washington State Library maintains an online collection of historical Washington newspapers at <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/history/newspapers.aspx>. This collection of 19th and early 20th century newspapers contains some Alaska related materials. A search on "Alaska" brought up 83 newspaper articles which included the editorial "[Prospective Purchase of Alaska and Aleutian Islands]" from the September 30, 1854 issue of the *Olympia Pioneer and Democrat*. This editor made the remarkable suggestion that the spaces between the Aleutian Islands should be filled in with earth or have bridges built between them so one could have a land route to Russia.

ALIEN REGISTRATION FILES TO BE PUBLIC RECORDS

In what will certainly be a boon to genealogists, the National Archives will keep the files of immigrants to this country. These are known as "Alien Registration Files" and document "both legal and illegal immigrants' interaction with the government through registration forms, interview transcripts, health records, photographs, marriage licenses and recordings." Files will become public a hundred years after an immigrant's birth date. For more details, please visit the LA Times article "Immigration files to become part of National Archives" at <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-archives4-2009jun04,0,424471.story>

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